

weather report

69°  
at noon

Today

• Sunset, 4:37 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 7:07 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:38 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 30 degrees

• Humidity 16 percent

• Sky sunny

• Winds northwest 18 mph

• Barometer 30.02 inches and steady

• Record High 68° (1956)

• Record Low -19° (1959)

Last 24 Hours\*

High 56°

Low 26°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, low mid 20s, north winds 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, high mid 50s, low 30, north winds 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: dry, high 45-50, low 30.

Sunday and Monday: dry, high 40s, low 15-25.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.92 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.72

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Corn — \$2.04 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.95

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Milo — \$3.39 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.47 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.33

Loan deficiency payment — 57¢

Millet — \$8.75 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$5.90 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.90

Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$15

(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Bush makes nomination

AUSTIN, Texas — President-elect Bush on Thursday tapped longtime adviser Joe Allbaugh to head the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the department that responds to natural disasters and other domestic crises.

Bush announced the nomination at the governor's mansion, along with the appointment of Karl Rove as senior White House adviser. Allbaugh was manager of Bush's presidential campaign and Rove was its senior political strategist.

The third member of Bush's so-called "Iron Triangle" of loyal Texas advisers, Karen Hughes, was named White House counselor shortly after the hotly contested election.

"It's a wonderful pleasure to announce the triangle has been completed," Bush said.

Memory collection

Son gathers father's war mementos to display at museum

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Goodland's Duane Coash has been gathering World War I mementos that belonged to his father, Russel, since August, and will put the items in the Wings Over the Rockies display at the end of January at the former Lowry Air Force Base in Denver.

The elder Russel Coash, who died in 1959, lived at Clifton in north central Kansas, and served in the U.S. Navy during World War I from May 2, 1917 to June 23, 1919. His rank was chief petty officer.

He was a pilot in the navy and flew planes off of a ship. The planes were catapulted off the ship. His job while in the air, was to observe enemy ships or drop bombs.

He completed aeronautic school at Pensacola, Fla., on Aug. 20, 1917 and received the Navy cross, which is the highest award given by that branch of the military, on Oct. 23, 1920 for dropping a bomb on a German submarine.

Coash, who runs Coash TV, Audio, Video Service, an electronic repair service in Burlington, said he became interested in his father's World War I mementos after his wife, Alberta, who works with consulting doctors at the Goodland Regional Medical Center, got to talking with one of those doctors about World War I. When Alberta and Dr. Ted Parks, an orthopedic doctor from Denver, talked, she found out that Parks' father, Jim, had started a World War I display at the former air base, but the job had been turned over to Andy Parks, a brother of Dr. Parks.

Coash attended a fly-in in August at Platte Valley Airport in northeastern Colorado, near Hudson, Colo. While at the fly-in, Coash met and talked to Andy Parks and his father about his father's time in the military. He told Parks that his family had his dad's collection of World War I mementos and his jacket and vest.

After the two men talked, Parks suggested putting a display together of the elder Coash's collection. Coash agreed.

He said the items are to be set up for display in one of the World War I rooms on Saturday, Jan. 27. He said the collection will be on loan to the museum. In Hangar No. 1, he said, there is a display of about 30 aircraft dating from World War I to the present day. Also, there are rooms where other military artifacts are displayed.

Coash has worked on organizing his father's material since August. In addition to the garments, the collection includes photos, certificates, medals and a shell dated June 1915, which is thought to be from a battleship.

Coash said he learned about his father's time in the service from his mother, Hazel, as his father wouldn't talk about it.

Coash said the impression he got from his father was that he didn't want to relive it. He said his father told him he wasn't proud of killing men.

While his father was overseas, he said, he spent time at Dunkirk, a seaport in North France, and Moutchie, France.

Coash told about how his father was

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Duane Coash is shown in profile, wearing glasses and a light blue button-down shirt with a flight jacket underneath. He is holding a small, rectangular, light-colored box with both hands, looking down at it intently. The background is dark and out of focus.

Duane Coash looked at a Navy cross earned by his father, Russel F. Coash, for an incident that took place during World War I. Coash has gathered some of his father's war mementos to be put in the Wings Over the Rockies display at the former Lowry Air Force Base in Denver.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Recycler asks for scrap iron

Commission wants written agreement

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

The Sherman County commissioners discussed placing an ad in a county tourism guide, a scrap iron removal contract and took care of end-of-month matters when they met Friday morning.

The commissioners talked with Marshall Hatfield of Goodland about a contract for taking scrap iron from the landfill. Hatfield said he's recycled iron for two or three years. He said he's interested in the contract and will pay \$4 a ton for soft metals.

"Are you all set to do it?" asked Commissioner Chuck Frankenfeld.

Hatfield said he didn't have equipment, but the company that has been doing it, L and S Metal of Lincoln, Neb., will continue and he will buy the metal.

Hatfield would do this as a service to the county and would sort out the metal at a friend's farm and then take it to Denver. At this time, he said, L and S takes the metal to Hoxie.

Hatfield said if the price of metal goes up, he would pay the county more.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Curt Way said removing the scrap iron cleans up the landfill, so they don't have trouble with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Frankenfeld said he would like to see an agreement between Hatfield and the company that is hauling off the iron before he was given a contract.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure told Hatfield to get a written agreement between him and the metal company and his pricing structure and bring that to them.

County Building Supervisor William McKnight told the commissioners he had talked to a man from Dover Elevator who does monthly inspections about the elevator problem at the courthouse.

McKnight said the man had looked at it and discovered the chimer on the first floor wasn't hooked up.

"We don't know if it works or if it was

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# Two finalists look to fill administrator job

## Officials to decide at regular session

After the Sherman County Commission interviewed two finalists for the new county administrator job on Wednesday, the commission chairman said today they plan to pick one at a regular meeting.

Chuck Frankenfeld, acting chairman, said he didn't know when the commissioners would make a decision, but it would be during a regular session.

That means Sherman County won't have the name of its new county administrator until at least Tuesday — when the commissioners meet next.

It could take longer as the commissioners meet only three times a month, and, of course, salary negotiations and other preparations will follow a decision.

The commission created the position in October, saying that county government is growing more complex and harder for part-time commissioners to manage.

Randy Allen of the Kansas Association of Counties in Topeka helped find and rank applicants and was there to help with the interviews.

The commissioners picked three finalists, including one Goodland man, from 11 applicants.

After David Chamberlin from Kansas City, Mo. dropped out on Tuesday night saying he had accepted another offer, Tom Betz, editorial editor for *The Goodland Daily News*, and Roy Ridener, a Wichita man coming out of retirement, remained.

## Wichita man says it takes experience

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Roy Ridener said he learned the most important lesson about being a good administrator on the job, not in school.

"Personality is more important than skill," the 50-year-old said.

Ridener, who has over two years' experience in public administration, is one of two finalists in the running for the new county administrator job.

"An administrator needs to know how to communicate well," he said. "They don't teach you that in school."

That doesn't mean Ridener, a native of Ohio who lives in Wichita, hasn't had his share of education.

After a 21-year career traveling the world with the U.S. Army, he retired in 1989 and started working towards a bachelor's degree at Wichita State University.

Once he had earned his bachelor's in Business Administration, Ridener said, he found that he enjoyed school so much, he wanted to go back for more. He now has a master's in both Public Administration and Business Administration from Wichita State.

Ridener interviewed for the job Sherman County commissioners created in October on Wednesday

Roy Ridener is a middle-aged man with glasses, wearing a dark suit and tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression.

Roy Ridener

after touring Goodland and the county facilities. He followed Tom Betz, a Colorado native who has lived in Goodland for three years.

They are the two finalists after David Chamberlin of Kansas City, Mo. dropped out on Tuesday night saying he had taken another job.

With a degree in public administration and a couple of years' experience, Ridener fits the commissioner's job description better than Betz, who has a bachelor's in political science, served on a city council and reported on county gov-

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## Editor knows county after 30 years at job

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Tom Betz, an editor for *The Goodland Daily News*, said he was there two years ago when the Sherman County commissioners started talking about creating a county administrator job.

And Betz, who moved to Goodland three years ago from Lamar, Colo. where he was publisher of a daily newspaper, said he was covering the October meeting where the commissioners signed a resolution establishing the new position.

Now, the 51-year-old, who has spent most of his life reporting on city and county government, is one of two finalists who want the position.

Betz and Roy Ridener, an Ohio native who lives in Wichita, interviewed on Wednesday after David Chamberlin, a third finalist from Kansas City, Mo., dropped out Tuesday night saying he was taking another job.

With multiple degrees and a couple of years' experience, Ridener better fits the commissioners' description of a county administrator, but Betz — who has a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Colorado — said 30 years of covering government and

Tom Betz is a man with dark, curly hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit and tie. He is smiling slightly at the camera.

Tom Betz

years of public service make him qualified.

"I believe my experience in covering government at a variety of levels for over 30 years as a publisher and editor gives me insight into what the job entails," Betz told the commission in his resume's cover letter.

"Over those same years, I have been involved in economic development on a regional and statewide scale, served on several city boards and commissions, been a town councilman for two years and was a municipal judge for a small, rural commu-

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